

was 16 mm in length and 2 mm wide. Identification was confirmed by Mr. Allyn G. Smith and Miss Joan E. Steinberg. All specimens are in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco.

*Ancula pacifica* has been reported to be a rare nudibranch (MACFARLAND, 1905, 1966; JOHNSON & SNOOK, 1927; STEINBERG, 1963). I believe it should be noted that *Ancula pacifica* is relatively common in San Francisco Bay during the early summer months.

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## Egg Capsule and Early Veliger of *Charonia tritonis* (LINNAEUS)

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(1 Text figure)

A FEMALE TRITON, *Charonia tritonis* (LINNAEUS, 1758), was collected off Oahu, Hawaii, October 5, 1969. It was kept with other tritons and observed copulating during

the day on three occasions in October. Egg capsules were collected from sides of the holding tank on February 1, 1970 and again on March 7, 1970. On this latter date the triton was transferred to a 100-gallon capacity aquarium to protect the egg capsules from damage by other tritons. Eighty-eight egg capsules were laid in 10 separate clusters between March 12 and 18. The capsules were attached to the sides of the aquarium by flattened, irregular bases and were often joined at their bases forming groups of as many as 24 capsules.

Each egg capsule is approximately 25 mm long, 9 mm wide at the greatest diameter, and 5 mm wide at the stalk (Figure 1). Light orange, ellipsoid eggs ( $450\mu$  by  $600\mu$ ) are visible through the wall of the egg capsule and the gelatinous layer which lines the capsule.



Figure 1

Empty Egg Capsule of *Charonia tritonis* with the Opening through which the Veligers escaped

Swimming veligers escape through an opening in the rounded end of the capsule (Figure 1) 6 to 8 weeks after the laying of the eggs. The light brown, translucent protoconch consists of one smooth whorl at hatching. Shells range in size from  $768\mu$  to  $934\mu$  at greatest diameter. The veliger has a white foot and a quadrilobed velum. Two black eye spots are present. From 2 capsules, 1140 and 1447 veligers at different stages of development were recorded, respectively.

All my attempts to raise veligers past metamorphosis have failed to date, although some veligers were maintained for 30 days. The oldest veligers crawled on their foot, even though they had 4 elongated velar lobes and the start of what might become 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> lobes.

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